

# DEVELOPER'S DIGEST

## Opportunities for Fishermen and Mariners in Offshore Wind Development Activities

In this issue, we discuss emerging opportunities for fishermen and other mariners to actively participate in offshore wind development activities and/or research partnerships. Fishermen and mariners who are available to participate in offshore wind development (OSW) activities, either presently or at a later time, are encouraged to complete this form: [Offshore Wind Participation Interest Form for Fishermen and Mariners](https://forms.gle/dXw2eSfDCwy2CXLP9) (https://forms.gle/dXw2eSfDCwy2CXLP9)

With the expansion of OSW in the Atlantic, the need for experienced vessels, captains, and crew in dynamic offshore conditions is rising. This demand may create opportunities for commercial fishermen, anglers, and other mariners to supplement their income by utilizing their offshore skills and vessels for assisting with OSW development activities, especially during inactive periods (i.e. off-season, quota limitations).

The suitability of roles for mariners depends on both their personal interests and unique qualifications that align with specific positions. Please note that qualification standards for different roles may vary across developers. The following chart lists several support services desired from experienced mariners and the development stages for which they may be needed (*D* = Development; *C* = Construction; *O* = Operations):

**Vessel Usage Opportunities:**  
services offered by utilizing or leasing vessels for OSW-related activities

**Scout Vessels:** work alongside or ahead of OSW vessels to ensure planned route is clear of fishing gear; coordinate with other ocean users to minimize potential conflicts (D, C)

**Guard & Safety Vessels:** monitor safety perimeters around OSW maintenance and construction sites; coordinate with other ocean users to minimize potential conflicts with ongoing operations (C,O)

**Cooperative Research Support Vessels:** assist in conducting marine research activities, such as fisheries monitoring surveys (D, C, O)

**Miscellaneous Support Vessels:** assistance in various support roles, such as equipment transport, maintenance and repair support, and towing/salvage services (C, O)

**Offshore Opportunities:**  
services working directly onboard OSW project vessels

**Offshore Fisheries Liaison Representatives (OFLRs):** serve as a conduit for information exchange between the Fisheries Liaisons (FLs), Fisheries Representatives (FRs), and fisheries users; communicate with fishing vessels encountered on-site (D, C)

**Offshore HSSE Specialists:** implement safety, security, and environmental protocols to safeguard personnel, assets, mitigate risks, and ensure compliance with regulations (D, C, O)

**Protected Species Observers (PSOs):** receive training and certification to monitor and document the presence and behavior of endangered or threatened wildlife onboard offshore wind vessels (D, C, O)

**Onshore Opportunities:**  
land-based services and roles to enhance communication between developers and fishing communities

**Fisheries Representatives (FRs):** represent a particular fishery, organization, gear type, port, region, state, or sector(s); responsible for communicating concerns, issues, and other input to the FL; represent their respective fishing communities as defined points of contact (D, C, O)

If you are interested in participating in current or future development activities and/or research partnerships, please fill out the following form:

[Interest Form for Fishermen and Mariners](#)

The positions highlighted in this newsletter are not comprehensive, and additional roles may become available during later stages of development. Project assistance needs are likely to vary according to individual project timelines. Please note that all positions are temporary and vary based on specific responsibilities. Certain periods may involve more intense work activity than others, and these roles are designed to complement, rather than replace, primary fishing roles.

Fishermen possess deep-rooted experience and a nuanced understanding of local fishing practices, communities, and the marine environment. As such, fishermen can contribute insights that are essential for avoiding and minimizing disruption to fishing operations and marine ecosystems. Simultaneously, these positions can help create a more sustainable financial base by offering supplemental income opportunities that can weather the unpredictable fluctuations of the fishing market.

## About the New York Bight Developer's Digest

This digest is produced periodically by the American Clean Power (ACP) New York Bight Fisheries Work Group to provide the fishing industry and interested stakeholders a snapshot of current and expected activities across BOEM's New York Bight lease areas: [Empire Wind](#) (0512), [Bluepoint Wind](#) (0537), [Attentive Energy](#) (0538), [Community Offshore Wind](#) (0539), [Atlantic Shores Offshore Wind](#) (0541), [Leading Light Wind](#) (0542), and [Vineyard Mid-Atlantic](#) (0544).

Lease locations and Fisheries Liaison contact information is listed on the following page. The goal of the Work Group is to advance engagement and collaboration with fishery participants and other ocean users through increased coordination among lessees in the New York Bight.



BLUEPOINT  
WIND



ATLANTIC SHORES  
offshore wind



Leading Light  
Wind



VINEYARD  
OFFSHORE

## Thank you!

Please feel free to reach out to the Fisheries Liaisons below with any questions or suggestions regarding this and future New York Bight Offshore Wind Updates. If you have any questions or would like to contribute to our next issue, please contact us at [BKrevor@cleanpower.org](mailto:BKrevor@cleanpower.org). For more information on outreach in the New York Bight, please see the following links to each project's Fisheries Communications Plan.

[Empire Wind Fisheries Communications Plan](#)

[Bluepoint Wind Fisheries Communications Plan](#)

[Attentive Energy Fisheries Communications Plan](#)

[Community Offshore Wind Fisheries Communications Plan](#)

[Atlantic Shores Offshore Wind Fisheries Communications Plan](#)

[Leading Light Wind Fisheries Communications Plan](#)

[Vineyard Mid-Atlantic Fisheries Communications Plan](#)

# New York Bight Offshore Wind Leases and Fisheries Liaisons

## December 2023

